

IRAQ DEATH TOLL
American soldiers killed
as of February 20, 2004: 544
Estimated civilian deaths: 8,245

KAPI O



Tuesday, February 24, 2004

The Kapiolani Community College Newsweekly

Volume # 37 Issue 21



PHOTO: JUSTIN HAHN

In violation of the UH smoking policy, Ukari Oba smokes in front of Subway

ONE YEAR LATER

Students still don't know smoking policy

By Justin Hahn
CO-EDITOR

The UH system smoking policy has been in effect for over a year, with many campuses working to comply, but how is KCC doing?

"When the smoking policy did come out a year ago, we did move the ashtray receptacles to the distance required," said Ann Kinningham, Director of Administrative Services.

The policy says smokers must stand at least 20 feet from doorways. Also, smokers may not light up in breezeways, outdoor dining patios, or within 50 feet of a designated pick-up or drop-off points.

As it is, most ashtrays are in compliance with the policy. But certain fixtures, such as by the cafeteria, in the courtyard by Subway, and in the Olapa building are still within the 20 foot perimeter.

"Initially, all of them were moved," Kin-

ningham said. "If they are there, then they were moved back."

Aside from this, and an education initiative last year to promote the policy, the college has done little else to control on-campus smoking.

"I see people smoking all the time in places where they shouldn't be," said Gemma Williams, Director of the Maida Kamber Center. "I don't know who is keeping track of this, but it doesn't look like anyone is."

The policy, Kinningham says, is one founded on the concept of aloha, and so enforcement is not as straightforward as many would like.

"The real intent of the policy was to be courteous," she said. "Every one on the campus should take part in this... it's voluntary compliance. If there is a complaint, we'll send security, but by the time they get there, the smoker is probably already gone, or they could just flick the cigarette."

see SMOKING, page 4 ▶

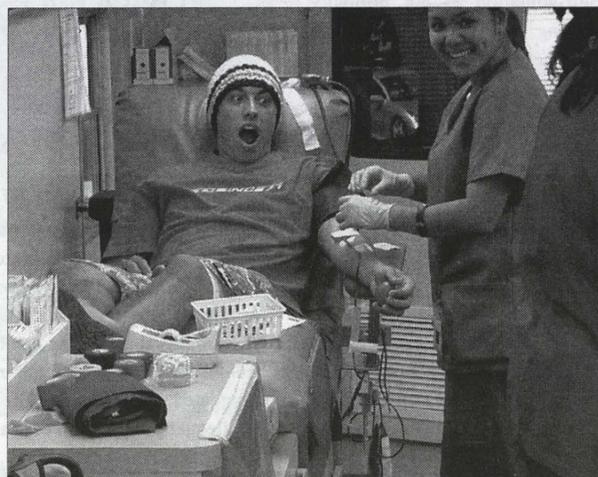
Ouch! Those needles...

By Andrea Maglasang
STAFF WRITER

Every eight weeks, one pint of your blood can save three lives. Each day, 200 pints of blood are needed for cancer patients, newborn babies and their mothers, elderly people and accident victims. In Hawai'i, 60 percent of the population will need blood at some time, and yet only 2 percent of the population actually donates it.

The most loyal donors come from the World War II generation, but "This generation is of a much different 'what's in it for me' mentality, and a busier society," said Noella Querubin, communications assistant at the Blood Bank of Hawai'i. "Giving blood is definitely an act of giving just to give; the biggest challenge today is to get the younger generations to make a tradition of giving blood on a regular basis."

"We are trying to increase the donor base in people ages 18 to 25, and hope that they become lifetime donors," said Aaron Knapp,



Joey Madrei takes Anthony Ing's blood during last year's drive

senior field representative at The Blood Bank of Hawai'i. "The number one reason we come to college campuses is to increase education about the need to donate."

For first time donors, donating blood may seem intimidating. However, it is short-lived and simple, according to Dawn Baxter, service learning student leader. "A lot of people are afraid because they think it's painful, but it isn't. The actual drawing takes only five minutes. Beforehand, you are just filling out registration

see BLOOD DRIVE, page 4 ▶

Whites only scholarship draws fire, stirs debate

By Frank-Paul Sampino
DAILY PENNSYLVANIAN (U. PENNSYLVANIA)

(U-WIRE) PHILADELPHIA - The College Republicans of Roger Williams University sparked national controversy last week by awarding a scholarship available only to white students.

The prize, financed through private donations, was publicized as a protest against racial preferences on college campuses.

"We're trying to show the inequality on campus, that just because of someone's skin color, they're automatically at a disadvantage," said RWU College Republicans President Jason Mattera on Fox News' "Hannity & Colmes" on Monday.

The application required an essay on "why

see SCHOLARSHIP, page 4 ▶

FCC defines regulations for Internet phones

By Joshua Skurtu
STAFF WRITER

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently announced they are planning to create a rule set for Internet Protocol (IP) based communications and are hoping to expand this new media. These rules will cover a wide range of Internet applications, including services like Pulver.com's Free World Dialup, which gives users the ability to make phone calls over the Internet, bypassing the phone companies. Users can make long distance calls using such services without being charged any ongoing fees, apart from set-up and Internet connection costs.

"Law enforcement access to IP-enabled communications is essential. The Communications

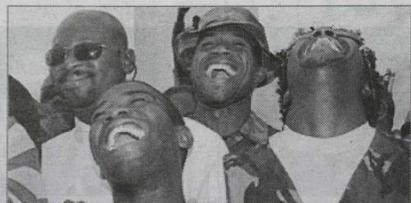
see FCC RULES, page 4 ▶



Starving Soldiers

Spicy nights and no dreams await U.S. troops in the future as the military looks into not feeding soldiers for up to five days straight.

Full story @ www.wired.com



Hello Haiti

As violence continues in war torn Haiti, the president hangs on to power.

Full story @ www.cnn.com



Chow-chowing down

Sen. Fred Hemmings wants to make it legal for dogs to join their masters in restaurants.

Full story @ www.cnn.com



Californication

Following a spurt of unauthorized gay marriages in San Francisco, courts try to decide what's legal and what's not.

Full story @ www.wired.com

Bikers fined, marginalized

By Andrea Maglasang
 STAFF WRITER

Self-adulation is not normally my thing. But I do shoulder with pride the fact that at least four times a week I can help to reduce environmental emissions, relieve stuffed-up streets, encourage outdoor activity, save myself a few coveted dollars on parking, and not take up so much space in this growing urban heat mass – simply by riding my bike.

But on the fifth of February, I was fined for my attempt to alleviate the pressure of a populated paradise. Coasting along after work, I was stopped by a policeman astride a bicycle of his own. Happy to see we shared a common interest I pulled aside – and he pulled out a \$57 ticket for my riding on the sidewalk of the Ala Wai Canal. I glanced confusedly between he and his partner (on a twin bike) and the trafficked street where I was being relocated. Neither of them had been riding there.

Putting the irony of the biking policemen aside, there are several wheels to spin on the issue of bike riding in Waikiki.

A few months ago, Bruce Willis was stopped for the same crime that I was fined for, but his million-dollar salary must not have been able to cover the cost of a ticket that my restaurant job could finance. Apparently, the law is discretionary, because “I just let him off,” said the Honolulu police officer that pulled him over. “It isn’t fair, but it saved time because if he went to court he would have gotten off anyway.”

For me, there was no verbal warning, and the police officer shrugged when asked if it was even safe to ride on the street. I didn’t receive any indication of where I might find the 19 artfully hidden signs directing me off the sidewalk. Hunting for the elusive

“Since the ticket, I have felt nothing but festering resentment...”

warning signs, I found only 7 small red and white ones tucked into the corners of the Ala Wai, whispering for me to pedal elsewhere. An unassuming and unfamous biker could easily follow the path of the designated sidewalks straight onto the illegal biking region of Waikiki without even noticing.

In Waikiki and business districts, the sidewalks are reserved for the safety of pedestrians; bikers must ride on the street. By this logic, the few bike paths that exist should then be reserved only for bikers. But they are not. Bikers are corralled to slim slices of pavement a few miles long, which are constantly strolled upon – even though along several, like Kapahulu Avenue, there is a sidewalk right next to the bike path. One never hears of a pedestrian being ticketed for crowding the bike paths.

They say that once you learn how to ride a bike, you never forget. But it seems to have slipped the minds of all but 2 percent of the local population. And 2 percent seems just about the amount of road space slivered out for bicycles to eek between whizzing car and curbside, or to swerve to avoid an opening car door. In the last two weeks I have had three near misses with car doors, two hair-blowing scrapes with buses, and one small nudge of a side view mirror.

This town, eighth largest in the nation, does not accommodate the economical commuter.

In Santa Barbara, California, a town rife with college students



much like Honolulu, bikes have the right of way. In St. Paul, Minnesota, pedestrians sidestep at the sound of a biker’s bell. But on Pau Street in Honolulu, a lane for bikes fails to take precedence over some sturdy cement planters recently installed to decorate the road.

Since the ticket, I have felt nothing but festering resentment for bike riders on the sidewalk who are not getting ticketed. Perhaps if I had been shown a little benevolence for my first infraction I would warn others of the danger, but being raped of \$57 has dulled my civic compassion. And segways have unearthed in me a disturbing revulsion for people too lazy to pedal being allowed to legally peruse the sidewalk on two wheels.

This bitterness saddens me, as I do not want to see more cars between the ocean and myself. I do not want to have to walk the three miles from my home to Waikiki. And I do not prefer the dull haze of my windshield to the clouds whipping cream into the sky above me.

I would like to see bikers demand

the same as pedestrians on the sidewalks: the guarantee of a safe space on the roadways, and encouragement for decongesting the crowd and the environment. Perhaps a mini-critical mass (a movement of bicycles in the streets) in Honolulu could catch the attention of Mayor Jeremy Harris and his competitors this election year and earn riders a piece of the road. Perhaps Hawai’i’s Department of Health “Start Living Healthy” campaign should start with the cyclists. And perhaps we all should let the garage do its duty for a few days, and take the bike out for a spin.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

The Kapi’o strives to be accurate and honest in our coverage of campus news. If you have comments on our standards, coverage or accuracy, please contact Clint Kaneoka or Justin Hahn, the Kapi’o’s editors, at 734-9120 or kapio@hawaii.edu.

Speak Out

Question and Photos by: Justin Hahn

What would you ask God?



When will the Seahawks win the Super Bowl?

—Shawn Leon-Guerrero



Why is there so much hate in this world?

—Jara Jones



It’s a tough thing, man. What is the meaning of Life?

—David Pfitzner



Why?

—Sophia Piendis



Are you a Democrat or a Republican?

—Brad Chun

KAPI'O

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Kapi’o invites all submissions. Editors reserve the right to edit for length and content. Publication of any submission is not guaranteed.

MODEST PROPOSAL

by Vuong Phung



The power of choice

The ability to make a decision, to cast a vote, or to simply decide where to buy lunch is the underlying factor of liberty and freedom.

Last month, this column outlined key issues contributing to the decline of Hawai'i's public education system.

The column also made suggestions on a larger level, but ultimately it is up to those involved in the process to make that decision.

On Feb. 16, the Star Bulletin reported "although 46,492 isle kids are eligible (under the 'No Child Left Behind Act') to transfer to another school, only 147 of them did so for this year." The report cited that parents chose not to relocate their eligible children to better schools. On the national level, only 2 percent of eligible students made the transfer.

Also in 2002, Carol Nafus, president of the Hawai'i State Parent Teacher Student Association, encouraged parents to do otherwise. "We want to go and educate the parents so that they stick with the school and they stay there to help the school get better," he said.

Fair enough.

Parents are legal guardians, capable of making choices. But if it was because their kids whined, "I no like leave this school," then the column thinks it's disturbing at the very least.

Two years ago, I visited California and was amazed at the length of a girl's family in pursuit of her education. They would drive an hour and a half to a better public school, and then fought traffic for three hours in opposite direction to work. Yet, the nearest school was only 40 minutes away from her house. She went on to UC Irvine last year. Her parents were proud. Their four-year effort paid off.

The same could happen to those eligible children here. Yet these parents see the problem in a different light. Does the possibility of a better future for the child carry lesser magnitude than sandbox preference?

Great parents make tough decisions on a daily basis, all of which acted in the best interests of their children. Letting a 12-year-old child make life-changing decisions is irresponsible. Parents have the fullest obligation to see their children's education through.

For what it's worth, my parents made that choice. Instead of going to the middle school six blocks from home, I caught the bus for three years and never looked back, though one could argue the other way, presenting an alternate history to the "what if" factor. But the good intention was there. Even though my parents could not back up their negative assumption about the school six blocks away, they made the effort nonetheless.

And on a lighter note:

- As the Democratic Primaries head to the play-off season, one would wonder if Dean's "Aiy-eehh" speech would topple the champion of replay chart, Janet's "Flasher" on TiVo.

- Despite the disappointment, Dean remained as charismatic as ever. In a rare TV appearance with Dianne Sawyer, the former governor talked candidly about his mistakes. "I should have married my cousin for Southern votes," he paused, thinking about recycling his line on Saturday Night Live, "My campaign was based on 3 Fs fumble, fart, and fall."

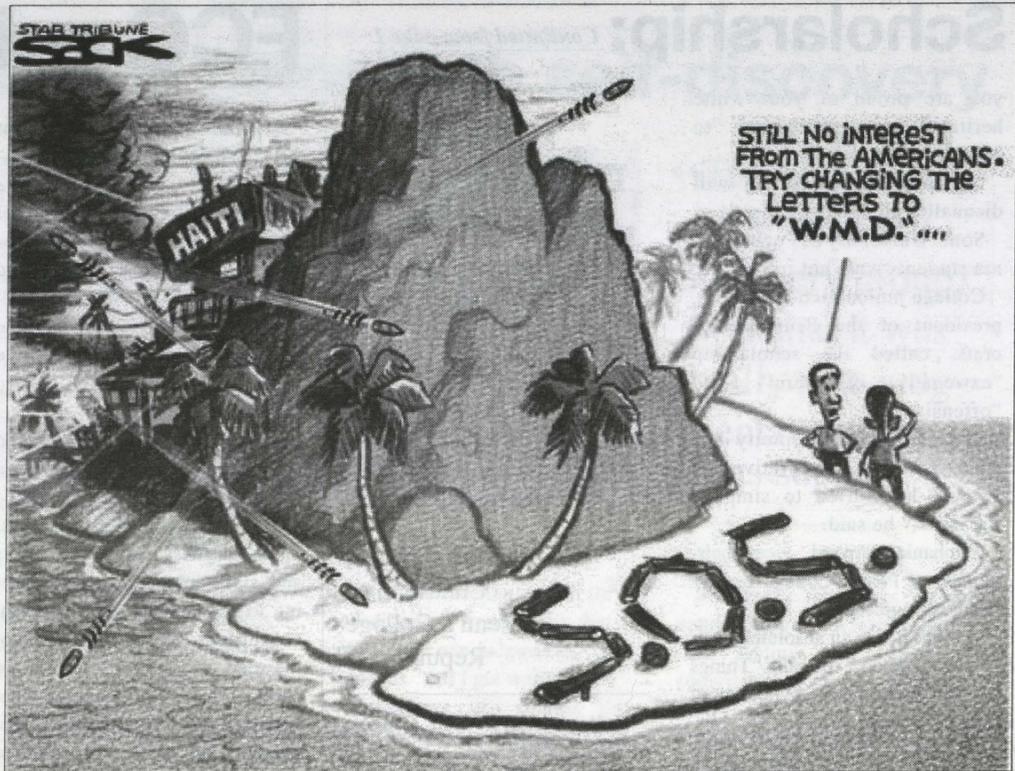
- The Republican camp scrambled after Dean's big announcement in mass confusion. Republican party head-honcho Bill Frisk pulled aside Bush's campaign manager, Carl Rove, allegedly shouting "Should have kept your mouth shut!" As if that wasn't enough, the First Lady, who has been quiet up until now, bluntly crammed the "I told you so" at anyone she passed. But George W. had a better, more 'original' idea. With the new \$31 million earmarked just for anti-Kerry ads, the party will revive the "Oh yeah, Kerry! We want him!" campaign this May. Stay tuned.

- This week Congress bought the DVD edition of the Kay report, complete with footage of the team's search for WMD in Iraq. As for the "Deleted Scene," Kay's team found one person who remembered serving with President Bush in the National Guard. After watching the extras, Senator Tom Daschle took the podium condemning the president for spending more money on finding the soldier than WMD.

- The world's first Christian-theme nudist park debuted last week in the Florida Keys with great success. In response, the Pope asked for an expansion to Boston, Massachusetts for his population of 3,000 priests.

- As a follow-up to last year's "Stock and Skirt" article, which experts pointed out the rising of stocks also reflect the height of skirts, Fortune magazine hoped their new "Slim TV" issue would sell big. "As America's Flat-Screen is getting thinner," wrote the expert, "Americans are becoming fatter." Great combination, another expert paraphrased, since "Americans need all that extra space to grow."

- And the big story of the week was Michael Jackson. The King of Pop is reported to have confessed with his priest about "growing up without a childhood." For spiritual advice, the priest invited Jackson to his private ranch.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

- A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.
- A snail can sleep for three years.
- All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
- Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.
- Butterflies taste with their feet.
- "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.
- If the population of China walked past you, in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
- It's impossible to sneeze with your

eyes open.

- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.
- Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.
- On a Canadian two dollar bill, the flag flying over the Parliament building is an American flag.
- Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients in dynamite.
- Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.
- "Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand; "lollipop" with your right.
- The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.

We've got mail:

Dear Kapi'ō,
This is to clarify your story entitled "New cleaning system holds janitors accountable" printed in your February 3, 2004 edition. John Messina, Auxiliary Services Officer did not state that "A system needed to be in place to hold somebody accountable," as quoted. The story involved the fact that checklists have been added to the restrooms. This checklist does not reflect any new cleaning system, nor is it utilized to hold someone accountable. The checklists document that the cleaning was done and that the supervisor has inspected the work. This documentation provides data that can be assessed and will assist in improving our janitorial services. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

—Ann H. Kinningham, Director of Administrative Services

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are needed from June to Nov. to monitor nesting turtles on Hawaii. Housing and stipend provided. Prefer a minimum 6-week commitment. Weekly camping, 7-12 miles hiking with 20+ lb pack. Night work. Need positive attitude, love of outdoors, and driver's license. To apply, call Hawaii Volcanoes National Park at (808) 985-6090, or FAX: (808) 985-6029, or email HAVO_turtle_project@nps.gov.

Scholarship: *Continued from page 1*

you are proud of your white heritage" and a photograph "to confirm whiteness."

"Evidence of bleaching will disqualify applicants," it read.

Some University of Pennsylvania students were not impressed.

College junior Rich Eisenberg, president of the Penn Democrats, called the scholarship "extremely distasteful" and "offensive."

"I think it sounds pretty terrible. I think conservatives in general have tried to simplify the issue," he said.

Stephanie Steward, vice chairwoman of Penn's College Republicans, disagreed.

"I think it was an absolutely brilliant thing to do," she said. "Things like this point out the hypocrisy of minority scholarships."

College sophomore Eric Rechtschaffen, executive director of the College Republicans, echoed those sentiments.

"I think that it is necessary to provoke a debate in this manner," he said.

Mattera, who is of Puerto Rican descent, has come under allegations of hypocrisy for accepting a \$5,000 scholarship from the Hispanic College Fund.

Mattera, however, dismisses those accusations.

"I think it just strengthens my argument, because I have nothing personally to gain from this," he said to Fox News host Alan Colmes. "In fact, I have something personally to lose from sponsoring this scholarship."

College junior Jesse Salazar, Latino Coalition spokesman, was skeptical of Mattera's defense.

"I'm glad [Mattera] received the minority scholarship which allowed him to go to college," he said, "because not many Latinos are afforded that privilege."

Salazar said that only 11 percent of American Latinos have ever graduated from college.

"What Democrats and liberals hate the most is a minority that's on the other side of the issues. It really gets them worked up."

— Dan Gomez, Chairman of Penn's College Republicans

College junior Dan Gomez, chairman of Penn's College Republicans, said that he has been subject to much of the same criticism that Mattera has received for his views.

"What Democrats and liberals hate the most is a minority that's on the other side of the issues," he said. "It really gets them worked up."

In the meantime, donors from across the country have stepped forward to increase the amount of the scholarship -- originally set at \$50 -- to over \$3,000 as of Monday.

RWU has distanced itself from the group, which has a history of igniting controversy.

"All those members of the Roger Williams University campus have a voice that deserves to be heard should they choose to speak out," said RWU Provost Edward Kavanaugh, according to The Providence Journal.

"Further, the initiative is an independent action by a student organization and is not endorsed by Roger Williams University."

Smoking: *Continued from page 1*

Renee Arnold, a French teacher with an office in the Olapa building says that students don't seem to know about the policy, or disregard it.

"I like the policy but students are not following it enough," Arnold said. "They smoke in the breeze way, and it stays there. Maybe if we said, you know, if you keep doing this, we're gonna do something else different then they would stop."

Other campuses, like Honolulu Community College, have done more to control campus smoking than the hands-off approach KCC has taken.

"Each class gets the policy on the first day of instruction," said HCC Student Body President Kenji Rasmussen. "But it is kind of an unenforceable rule. But we do the best

we can. We get new students all the time, and this keeps it out there."

Over all, ignorance is the main problem. Of the twenty students interviewed, most didn't even know smoking was governed on campus.

"I smoke by an ashtray," said Jacque Danielson, a student at KCC. "I kinda knew there was something about it, but if you see an ashtray, that is an invitation to smoke there. If there's no ashtray, this signifies that this is a no smoking environment. But if I see one, I'm gonna smoke. If they don't want me smoking there, then I say, move the ashtray."

Check out the full policy at www.hawaii.edu/smokingpolicy, or contact Ann Kinningham at 734-9571 for more information, or to report violations of the policy.

FCC rules: *Continued from page 1*

Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA) requires telecommunications carriers to ensure that their equipment is capable of providing surveillance capabilities to law enforcement agencies," said FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell in a press release concerning one of the new rules. This would give law enforcement the ability to tap these phone calls.

As it stands now, there are no unified laws on surveillance within IP-based phone calls.

"As service providers are developing business plans and courts and state commissions are starting to reach potentially divergent conclusions about the rules of the road, the risks of inaction are great," said FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy. "This Commission must step forward and provide guidance, or providers may be subject to a patchwork of

inconsistent rules." The FCC recognized that not only should Internet services be subject to minimal regulation, but also that many mechanisms to implementing public services, such as public safety, emergency 911, law enforcement access, consumer protections and disability access, may drastically change as they migrate to Internet-enabled services.

One of these drastic changes planned by the FCC is to use the nation's power grid to bring broadband to all Americans. To gain access to this power-grid-based broadband service, a person would only need to plug a modem into a standard power outlet to get onto the Internet. This would also make standard analog phones obsolete, as users would simply plug their phones into the same outlet as their toaster.

These untold changes will only occur if these public services are implemented.

"IP applications will only revolutionize communications if everyone has access to really high capacity bandwidth," said FCC Commissioner Michael J. Copps in a press release. "Only when everyone, everywhere in America has access to broadband, will the IP transformation we herald here really take place."

Although the FCC feels services like Pulver.com's Free world Dialup should have a framework of laws to govern them, it has decided to let Pulver.com continue to be a free service. According to the FCC, "The Declaratory Ruling adopted emphasizes the FCC's long-standing policy of keeping these consumer Internet services free from burdensome economic regulation at both the federal and state levels."

Blood drive: *Continued from page 1*

and then afterwards you rest and have refreshments. It's perfect if you have time between classes, because the entire process only takes about an hour."

Anyone in good health and over the age of 18 (17 with written parental consent) can be screened to give blood, as long as they have waited at least eight weeks between donations, and weigh at least 110 pounds. To make the donation easier on your body, "you should eat well that morning, drink a lot of water, and get a good night's rest the night before. Also eat foods that are high in iron, and avoid caffeine that day,"

said Baxter. After collection, the blood is given wherever it is needed most.

"We are the only blood center in the state, and give blood to all 19 hospitals on the island," said Knapp.

One pint of blood is separated into three component parts: red blood cells, platelets and plasma. Each of these parts can be given to a different person. In the last KCC blood-drive, over 45 pints of blood were collected, potentially saving 135 lives.

The next is Tuesday, Feb. 24, when KCC's Service Learning

program teams up with the Blood Bank of Hawai'i to run one of several annual blood drives on campus. A bloodmobile in Parking lot E collects donations from 9a.m. to 3p.m. from registered donors, but also welcomes walk-ins. If you miss this blood drive, the next will be on April 26.

The Blood Bank of Hawai'i has two fixed sites on the island: 2043 Dillingham Blvd., and 126 Queen St. downtown. From Monday through Saturday, you can donate blood by appointment or by walking in.

Call 845-9966 or visit www.bbh.org for more information.

A Life Remembered



PHOTO: JUSTIN HAHN

Two years ago last week, Gary La'a and a few friends were skateboarding when he fell and hit his head. Ever since, family, friends and those who loved him have used this banyan tree outside Ilima as a memorial to his life.

Tax season takes over

■ Tax season can be a daunting time, especially for first time filers. The following is a how-to guide for rookies, designed to take the mystery out of the paperwork, the deadlines and the rules.

By Mary Lee
STAFF WRITER

Filing taxes is a hassle regardless of whether or not you receive money back. While everyone appreciates receiving a little monetary bonus from the government, many students, due to their hectic work and school schedule, pay to get a tax service to file their taxes for them.

While tax services may be the easiest, albeit the most expensive way to file taxes, those not wanting to share their hard-earned dollars with a corporate company may opt for more traditional methods, such as filing taxes themselves. Unfortunately, this is an intimidating project that requires both timely and accurate submission of tax forms. So, for those who are interested in embarking on such a daunting task, here is a list of tips, deadlines, and deductions that will help you keep your good status with Uncle Sam.

Who Must File

You are required to file a return if you have a gross income received in 2003, or are due a refund for the overpayment of taxes. To begin, select a specific filing status: single, married filing jointly, married filing separately, head of household, or qualifying widow. From here, you can select between two types of exemptions, personal and dependency. For 2003, the standard deduction for a single taxpayer is \$4,750, and \$3,050 for each personal exemption.

What to File

Records to be attached to your tax form (generally the 1040 Form) include W-2's, 1099 Forms, and any other income documents. It is also a good idea to save bank statements, keep all canceled checks, as well as any other records for itemized deductions to be claimed. You should keep all of these records for three to six years to protect yourself from an IRS audit.

Educational Tax Credits

There are several educational tax credits available for students enrolled in college for 2003. The Hope Credit (maximum \$1,500)

is available to students registered at least part-time – six credits or more. For those enrolled for fewer credits, the Lifetime Learning credit (maximum \$2,000) is available. Taxpayers can file for one of these tax credits on Form 8863, but may not file for both in the same year. Students claimed as dependents are not eligible for educational credits. Other 2003 Educational Provisions include the Student Loan Interest Deduction (\$2,500), and the Education Expense Deduction (\$3,000). Room, board, and book costs are not considered qualifying education expenses.

Where to File

• On Oahu, federal tax forms are available online at www.ire.gov, or at:

**300 Ala Moana Blvd.
Honolulu, HI 96850
Monday – Friday,
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Telephone: (808) 539-2099**

• Federal tax returns should be sent by April 15 to:

**Internal Revenue Service Center
Fresno, CA 93888-0002**

• State tax returns should be sent by April 20 to:

**Oahu District Office
P.O. Box 3559
Honolulu, HI 96811-3559**

To receive a quicker federal tax return, you can file your taxes electronically by visiting the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System at www.EFTPS.gov

Important Dates &

Notes

- **February 2:** W-2's issued by employers.
- Attach W-2's and other supporting documents to tax forms.
- Remember to claim educational tax credits.
- E-file for free tax filing services and a quicker return.
- **April 15:** Federal tax returns due.
- **April 20:** State tax returns due.
- Failure or delay in filing a return may result in penalty and interest charges that could increase your tax bill by 25 percent or more.

Group helps with self-discovery

By Crystal Carpenito
STAFF WRITER

Do you know who you are? Are you in touch with your feelings? Or are you lost in the path to self-discovery?

If you need help finding the answers to questions like these you could join a support system for students. Wednesday, Feb. 25 will be the first time KCC has offered a Self-Discovery Group where students can openly express themselves.

"It's a nice support to offer students here," said Petra Edwards a counselor conducting the meetings. "It provides a safe place for people to share thoughts."

There will be eight consecutive meetings every Wednesday from 12:15p.m.-1:15p.m. in 'Ilima 202C.

The first couple of meetings will begin with exercises aimed to build and strengthen trust among the group.



Petra Edwards

"The best feeling I got (in a self-discovery group) was that it was totally non-judgmental. All I got was support."

"The best feeling I got (in a self-discovery group) was that it was totally non-judgmental," said Edwards. "All I got was support."

Participants will discuss personal history and family culture. They will build upon feelings, defense mechanisms, self control, and forgiveness for themselves and others. Along with sharing feelings, they will receive and give feedback. All discussions held within the group are confidential.

In these eight weeks Edwards hopes students will learn to express their feelings and expand the consciousness of their wants and needs.

"You realize you are on a similar boat," said Edwards. "You see people grow and you see yourself grow."

If interested in attending the Self-Discovery Group you can call Tammy at 743-9500 or visit 'Ilima 104 to sign up.

Recent SNAPSHOTS

- Dean suspended his presidential campaign.
- Armed rebels in Haiti seized several more towns.
- Japan signed an oil contract with Iran.

Headlines and News Briefs

EVERYTHING TO BRING YOU UP TO SPEED

Howard Dean suspended his presidential campaign, in effect ending his bid, after coming a distant third in the Wisconsin Democratic primary. John Kerry won, but by a narrower margin than expected over John Edwards, who now seems the only candidate capable of upsetting the front-runner in the March 2 Super Tuesday elections, when ten states vote.

Over 2,500 **gay couples** obtained marriage licences in San Francisco. Opponents of the nuptials immediately took the issue to court; local judges said they would hear arguments soon on the constitutionality of the scheme.

George Bush agreed to set up a private meeting with a national commission that is investigating events leading to the **September 11 attacks**. The panel, which is seeking an extension to its reporting deadline in May, also wishes to interview Dick Cheney, Bill Clinton and Al Gore.

The **Catholic Church** in Los Angeles published a detailed report, stretching back over 70 years, on sexual abuse in the diocese. Meanwhile, a bishop in Phoenix was found guilty of a hit-and-run traffic accident. Thomas O'Brien led the city's 500,000 Catholics until last June, but stepped down once charges were brought.

The leaders of **Germany, Britain**

and **France** insisted that they had no wish to dominate Europe, after a three-way summit in Berlin whose exclusiveness irritated other present and would-be members of the European Union. The trio proposed a vice-presidency for the European Commission to speed reforms of the enlarged Union.

As **Serbia** lurched through a deep political crisis, the former Yugoslav president, Vojislav Kostunica, was expected to form a coalition with a party once led by Slobodan Milosevic, the disgraced strongman of Serbian nationalism who is on trial for war crimes.

Nearly **300 people died in Iran** when a train full of fertilizer, petroleum and sulphur products crashed and exploded.

Officials from the White House and State Department arrived in **Israel** to discuss Ariel Sharon's proposal for a unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip.

The International Court of Justice in The Hague prepared for hearings on **Israel's** controversial security wall. The International Committee of the Red Cross pronounced the barrier contrary to international law.

Declaring, in effect, a state of emergency, **Zimbabwe's** President Robert Mugabe decreed that anyone

arrested for public-order offences or for corruption can be held for 30 days without trial.

In **Haiti**, armed rebels opposed to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide seized several more towns in the center of the country. The U.S. said Aristide should stay, but admitted that it had little appetite to get involved.

Bilateral discussions between **India** and **Pakistan**, dominated by the thorny issue of Kashmir, took place in Islamabad. Delegations agreed upon a timetable for further discussions, starting with more high-level talks in May or June.

Nuclear-weapon designs, found in Libya after the country's decision to abandon its program of weapons of mass destruction, were traced to designs that China sold to Pakistan and then smuggled to Libya. Similar information may have reached North Korea and Iran.

Despite American concerns, Japan signed a \$2 billion contract with **Iran** to exploit its Azadegan oilfield.

The death of an aboriginal teenager sparked off riots in Sydney. Angry youths took to the streets of **Australia's** main city after the teenager was impaled on a fence; they claimed that the police were chasing him. Rioters set fire to a railway station and 40 police officers were injured.

Taiwan's presidential election got under way with a televised debate, the first in Chinese history.

Online classes allow for convenience, flexibility

By Clint Kaneoka
CO-EDITOR

While most students find it difficult to make it to class everyday, this is especially true for those who must juggle their school schedule around a full-time job, and possibly the looking after of their family. What may be of interest to these students is that there is a way to attend classes without actually coming to school.

Although KCC classrooms have integrated online components with education since the mid 1990s, recent years have seen an explosion in the number of Internet courses available for credit. Currently, every department on campus includes Internet courses as an option in their curriculum, and students can even earn their A.A. degree entirely through these classes.

"Internet courses have really taken off over the last couple of years," said Joyce Shirokane, KCC's Distance Learning Coordinator. "They are very popular and we have gone from offering just a handful of classes to over 30."

Despite its title implications, not all Internet classes will be strictly attended online, as some will still require occasional classroom appearances. The amount of classroom learning, if any, depends on the instructor, although most Internet courses do have classroom components, according to Shirokane.

While Internet courses may provide a way to attend class without actually coming to campus, this does not mean less work or studying for students. In fact, students should be forewarned that though Internet courses may seem like the easier route to take, it often isn't.

"Taking courses over the Internet takes much more discipline than classroom-based courses," said Shirokane. "It requires a much higher level of maturity because students really have to dedicate themselves to attending and preparing for classes, and meet the deadlines on their own. Many students often find these classes to be more difficult than traditional classes."

However, it is this added responsibility that helps to make the online learning experience worthwhile. According to Shirokane, this method may actually allow students to not only receive a comparable education, but one that is superior to classroom learning.

"Student performance is often better online, usually because those students are more motivated than the ones attending traditional classes," said Shirokane. "Also, since the students are able to post their questions to the instructor, rather than raise their hand in class, there is less intimidation, and they can ask about the things they don't understand."

But Internet courses aren't for everyone, as the increase in scholas-

"Student performance is often better online, usually because those students are more motivated than the ones attending traditional classes."

— Joyce Shirokane

tic responsibility may be difficult for some to handle. Therefore, students wishing to take classes over the Internet must first speak with a counselor to determine if these classes are right for them. And, although it may seem that Internet courses would be the preferred method of learning, some students say that they still prefer a more traditional approach.

"I think they are okay for most people," said Brent Parker, a Liberal Arts major at KCC. "I guess it's more convenient to stay home and take classes. But for me, I think it would feel too foreign from normal classes. I would probably feel more comfortable taking a regular class."



The delicious layout at Smorgy's includes fruit.

PHOTOS: JUSTIN HAHN

Food! Glorious food at Smorgy's

By Justin Hahn
CO-EDITOR

"The only worry I ever have is if I've eaten enough."

Ordinarily, I keep as far away from Lewers Street as possible.

It strikes me as a dirty, grimy place. What with drunks stumbling out of bars spewing nickel beer and vulgarities everywhere, whores hiding in the bushes, and the narrow sidewalks impeding pedestrian traffic, it is one of the most unappealing parts of Waikiki. But for Perry's Smorgy Restaurant, located at 250 Lewers Street, just half a block from the beach, and a beer bottle's throw from the dorms in the Ohana Reef Towers, I make the sacrifice. For all the ice cream I can shovel down my gullet, and a virtually endless multi-ethnic buffet for just \$9.95, I make the sacrifice every time I can.

One night last week, I wasn't in the mood to cook anything. Nor did I feel like going to some corporate flesh house to belly up to the counter. So my girlfriend and I popped on down to Smorgy's for a quick bite — about three hours of gorging ourselves on fried chicken, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, more Jell-o than Bill Cosby could stand, and of course, the world famous ice cream bar.

Once there, the tables were packed with tourists and residents alike. Why not, I reasoned. Where else can you find kim chee, fried rice, and an endless trough of Kona blend coffee? Smorgy's is like the absolute perfect multi-cultural eatery. It's like going around the world, all for a measly \$9.95.

Everyone will find something to satiate their palate at Smorgy's. Even the soul food crowd will be satisfied with the fried chicken, corn bread and biscuits and gravy. Only thing missing, I think, is poi. How can you run a buffet without poi, I asked the management. They had no answer to that question.

They did say, however, that college students tend to frequent the restaurant.

"They come in ten, fifteen at a time," the cashier said. "They eat a lot and seem to like the place."

But a copious cornucopia of culi-

nary delights isn't everything this restaurant has to offer. The ambiance is at once joyful and conducive to over indulgence, and strangely thought provoking. Hapa-haole music floats languidly from the ceiling, as busboys troll the tables, eagerly looking to scoop up any used plates or cups.

Wait help, who usually hover uncomfortably close in other restaurants, urging you to hurry up and eat are non-existent at Smorgy's. Here you are left to eat at your own leisurely pace, and indulge every food fantasy.

I mixed kim chee and sliced watermelon, with a not so dyspeptic outcome. My girlfriend sat for a good ten minutes slowly, intensely devouring a leg of chicken. And we both had all of our ice cream dreams come true at the desert bar. Sundaes, cups of pudding and Jell-o, and torrents of hot chocolate finished off a night of oral fulfillment.

But perhaps the most delicious, beautiful aspect of Smorgy's is the fact that you can eat like a whale, slurping down billions of krill, and never give it a second thought. Inhibitions seem to fly out the window, and the idea of any propriety is forgotten around the second or third trip to the buffet.

Aside from the frightfully unclean plates and silverware, the only worry I ever have is if I've eaten enough. I worry if I've gotten my \$9.95 worth.

I do, however, fret about the workers at Smorgy's. They can't be happy, these menials.

Towards the end of the night, I know they get to hating us tourists. I know they can't stand dishing up the ice cream, slicing off chunks of ham hock, and bussing our tables. But what are you gonna do? Where else can I get a complete dinner for \$9.95?

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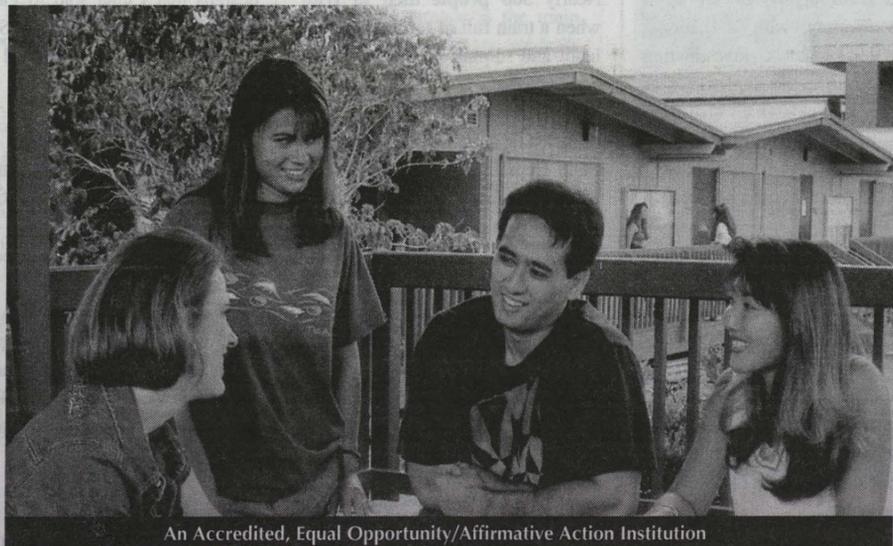
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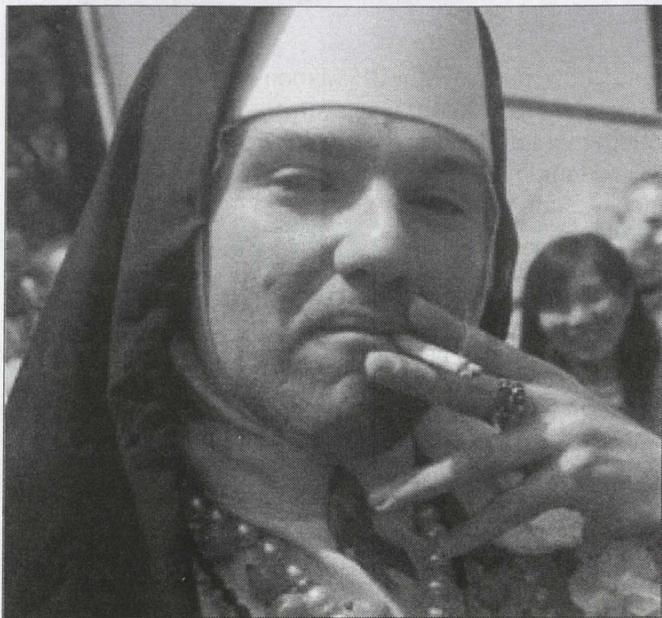
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It's All About the Beads, Baby!

■ Mardi Gras is the mother of festivals the world over. A time for fun-loving Catholics to party, eat, drink and strip before giving it all up for Lent.



By Cassie Thomas
STAFF WRITER

The Mardi Gras season begins January 6, twelfth night, and continues until dawn on Ash Wednesday. Mardi Gras can fall between February 3 and March 9, depending on the lunar cycle. Mardi Gras is always 47 days before Easter Sunday, as determined by the Catholic Church by using a lunar calendar throughout the season. The last night of the celebrations is called fat Tuesday, or Mardi Gras in French. Celebrated in southern climes as Carnivale or Shrovetide, Mardi Gras is the last day of wild excesses before the weeks of fasting of lent.

The excesses of Mardi Gras led to the institution of the 40 hours prayer, established by the church partly to draw people away from the party-making, and partly to make expiation for the large amount of sins committed during the festivities.

The masked revelries in the early 19th century became so rambunctious that lawmakers outlawed masks in New Orleans. Several businessmen feared that the wild parties of Mardi Gras would lead to the holiday being outlawed as well. In 1857 they created the first Mardi Gras secret society. They hoped that the secret societies, called krewes, would be able to keep the celebrations alive. Today thousands of people are members of the more than 60 krewes that host the street activities.

Aside from the street entertainment that is open to the public, krewes host private parties and balls. These parties range anywhere from after-parade parties to the equivalent of a debutantes ball in the northern cities.

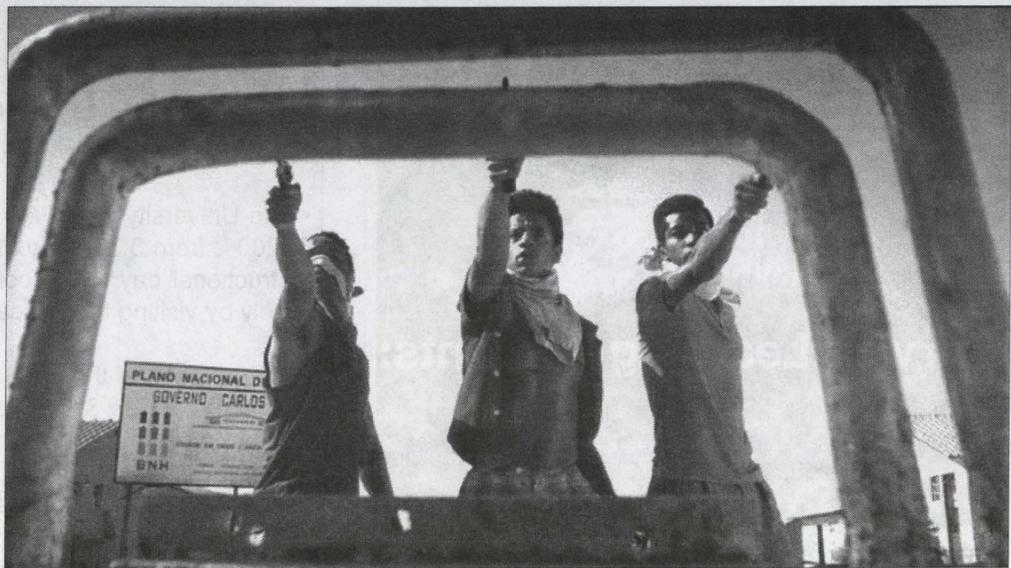
A visit by Russian Grand Duke Alexis Romanoff led Orleans busi-

nessman to create the krewe of rex in his honor. They selected several people to be the royal court to Romanoff's king-for-a-day. The floats in the Rex krewes parade featured seals and colors representing the Grand Duke. The Romanoff family colors - green for faith, gold for power, and purple for justice - became the official colors of Mardi gras.

Krewes had been in the practice of passing out favors at selected stops along their parade routes, but the krewe of rex began the practice of tossing strings of beads to the crowds as they passed. Now many types of goodies get thrown off the floats. The top three krewes alone throw on average 1.5 million cups, 2.5 million coins called doubloons, and 200,000 gross of beads. Most krewes also have a stash of special knick knock throws such as stuffed animals, bobble heads or the coveted Zulu Coconut.

Many of the riding lieutenants that lead the parades and celebrity kings and queens also carry special coins and cups. These special items become the targets of specialty collectors. Many collectors have established swap meets following the parades to buy the throws off of departing tourists. Prices of announced specialty throws are usually set before the parades and items featuring the celebrity guests are the most prized.

This year, Lord of the Rings stars' such as Elijah Wood are atop the paraded royalty. Dora the explorer and Spongebob Squarepants are also starring in Krewe parades. Several music stars are also headlining in their own oversized floats. From there, they often perform as the float moves down the parade route making Mardi Gras the greatest free show on earth.



Brazilian film, "City of God," goes where mainstream films don't.

Photo: Courtesy of Miramax

What film lacks in star power, it makes up for in cinematic genius

Paul Kolbe
Staff Writer

With the plethora of good movies released this year it's easy to overlook a movie like, "City of God." It's foreign, with subtitles, and has no major American movie star in it. But, in my not so humble opinion, "City of God," is the best movie of the year.

The movie's title comes from the same-named Cidade de Deus ghetto in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This is an area which was, and still is, notorious for its' crime rate - picture South Central-Los Angeles, times ten.

The story revolves around a young man called, "Rocket," played by Alexandre Rodrigues. Rocket has spent his youth in the City of God, avoiding, or trying to avoid the draw to the criminal life, as well as the ever-present atmosphere of murder, drugs, rape, and any other danger you can imagine. And, by the time he decides it's time to leave, a massive drug war is raging

The man behind the war is, "Lil' Ze", played by, Leandro Firmino, a homicidal sociopath who cares about nothing but taking control of the entire area, and will use any methods necessary to realize his dream.

As the war rages through the

"City of God," is filmed with such kinetic energy that its' easy to get lost in the picture, and while other Best Picture nominees may hit you in one way or another, 'City of God,' will hit you in every way."

streets, the area becomes sealed off, and even the police refuse to enter. Rocket, who at this time is a budding photographer, conceives a plan to film the war and sell the pictures to the media, in order to get a job. But in order to do this, he must put himself in harm's way, and get closer to Lil' Ze.

"City of God," is filmed with such kinetic energy that its' easy to get lost in the picture, and while other Best Picture nominees may hit you in one way or another, City of God," will hit you in every way.

Sure, "Mystic River," shows us a more ambiguous side of human nature, leaving us sad; "Lost in Translation," can show us what love can be; "Master and Commander," will show you what

sheer willpower can accomplish, and "Sea Biscuit," will have you cheering for the underdog. Not to mention, "Lord of the Rings," which will leave you in state of ecstasy as a certain CGI troll falls into lava. But, "City of God," has all this and more (well, maybe no trolls or lava, will bring you in and out of every possible emotion, that you'll leave the theatre feeling drained

Unfortunately, Oscar voters did not see it my way, and while garnering nominations for Best Cinematography, Film Editing, Adapted Screenplay, and Director, it failed to receive a nomination for Best Picture. No matter! Because maybe "City of God," is not the best picture of the year, maybe it's one of the best movies you'll ever see.

SUMMER SPECIALS

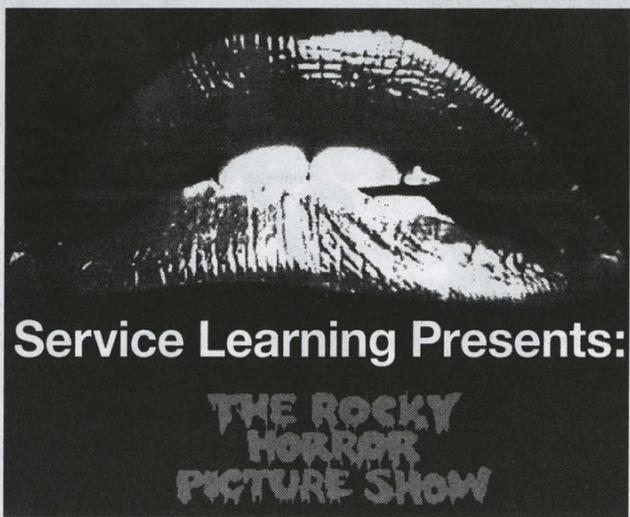
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Service Learning Presents:

- A benefit for Service Learning International Programs and the FoodBasket.
- Saturday, April 24, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Ohia Cafeteria.
- Costumes, fun, prizes!
- Call 734-9285 or come to Olona 118 to reserve your seat early!

The Baha'i Club At Kapiolani Community College

Presents the Baha'i principle of the month:

The Elimination of Prejudice: Religious, Racial, Economic and National

We invite all students, faculty, and people of all backgrounds to an open forum to discuss about racial prejudice, and how to heal this international problem.

On Monday March 15
From
1:00am~2:00pm
In Ohia 103

Elimination of racial prejudice will be the focus of this public discussion. Please bring your thoughts, feelings and ideas. Most importantly bring on open mind, and a heart that's ready to grow. We welcome people of all religious and non religious backgrounds, and people of all nationalities and cultures.

- For more information about the Baha'i Club at KCC, call club member Richard Chandler at 536-6189 or e-mail Shahla Hirahara at: shahla@hawaii.edu
- For more information about the Baha'i Faith visit www.bahai.org, for local activities in Honolulu, HI, call 738-LOVE.

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The Chinese Culture Club

Join the club for it's second meeting of the semester, March 1 from 12-1 p.m. in Olapa 211.

Boston Globe reporter and former KCC student to lecture at KCC

Professional journalist, Donovan Slack, will be guest teaching at KCC from Feb. 23 through Feb. 26. Students interested in sitting in on her lectures are invited to do so. For more information, please contact journalism adviser Dustin McDunn at 734-9120 or at mcdunn@hawaii.edu or Wini Au at 734-9166.

Are you planning to transfer to the Univeristy of Hawaii at Manoa? Then the following news item is especially for you:

- The University of Hawaii is hosting the Rainbow Bridge Program on Friday, March 5, 2004, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm in the Campus Center Ballroom. This is a non-instructional day for all community college students, so you can use your free day wisely by visiting the UH campus.
- The purpose of the program is to showcase several UH Manoa programs including Architecture, Arts & Sciences, Business, Education, Hawaiian Studies, Engineering, Social Work, Travel Industry Management and more. You will have the opportunity to tour the UH campus, learn of policies and procedures that affect enrollment at UHM, and to network with university faculty, staff, and students.
- A FREE BUS will be provided which will leave KCC at 8:00 am (by the Chapel) and return to KCC by 1:30 pm. If you have completed 45 or more credits you should have received a letter and registration form from the School and College Services Department at UHM. You may drop off your registration form at the Maida Kamber Center for Career & Transfer Services in Ilima 104 by Thursday, February 26.

Questions? Please call 734-9500 and ask for Gemma or Tammy

The Baha'i Club

Invites all students, Faculty, and people of all backgrounds to:

Weekly Interfaith Devotions Devotion/Meditation 11 a.m.~12 p.m. Every Friday Ohia 103

- Principles of the Baha'i Faith are:
- The Oneness of God
- The Oneness and Progressive Nature of Religions,
- The Oneness of Humankind
- Independent Investigation of Truth
- Harmony of Science and Religion
- Equality of Men and Women
- The Promotion of Universal Peace
- The Elimination of Prejudice:
- Religious, Racial, Economic and National

If any of these principles interest you, or if you would just like to come pray, meditate, or have some quiet time in your week, you are more than welcome. We welcome people of all religious and non religious backgrounds, and people of all nationalities and cultures.

For more information about the Baha'i Club at KCC, call club member Richard Chandler at 536-6189 or e-mail Shahla Hirahara at: shahla@hawaii.edu
For more information about the Baha'i Faith visit www.bahai.org, for local activities in Honolulu, HI, call 738-LOVE.

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